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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Yang et al.

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EXPANDASE AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING 7-ADCA

USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application and in accordance with Rule 115 of the Rules of Practice, please enter the following amendments and consider the remarks below. Applicants submit concurrently herewith: (1) a Transmittal of Formal Drawings; (2) Formal Drawings (4 sheets, Figures 1-4); (3) a copy of the Sequence Listing on paper; (4) an Information Disclosure Statement; and (5) a revised PTO-1449 Form listing references AA-AK.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Changes are shown by double underlining (for added matter) and strikethrough (for deleted matter).